

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-20 IGA-02 SP-03 EB-12 NSC-07 RSC-01

CIEP-03 TRSE-00 SS-20 STR-08 OMB-01 CEA-02 L-03 H-03

PA-04 PRS-01 USIA-15 CIAE-00 COME-00 FRB-03 INR-11

NSAE-00 XMB-07 OPIC-12 LAB-06 SIL-01 FEAE-00 DRC-01

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R 011350Z OCT 74

FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8289

AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO

AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

AMEMBASSY ASUNCION

C O N F I D E N T I A L BUENOS AIRES 7306

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EGEN, AR, BR, PA, UY

SUBJECT: ARGENTINE CONCERN OVER ECONOMIC PLIGHT OF URUGUAY

REF: A. BA 6555

1. AT A RECENT LUNCHEON AT THE LEBANESE EMBASSY, AMBASSADOR CARLOS CONRADO BECKMANN, FONOFF UNDER SECRETARY FOR ECONOMIC RELATIONS, TOLD AMBASSADOR HILL THAT ARGENTINA IS VERY CONCERNED WITH THE ECONOMIC SITUATION IN URUGUAY. URUGUAY'S SEVERE ECONOMIC PROBLEMS COULD LEAD TO A POLITICAL COLLAPSE WHICH HE ASSURED AMBASSADOR HILL WOULD "HAVE SERIOUS CONSEQUENCES" FOR THE ENTIRE SOUTHERN CONE AREA." BECKMANN FURTHER VOICED HIS CONCERN THAT THE US WAS NOT GIVING THIS PROBLEM ENOUGH ATTENTION AT PRESENT AND EXPRESSED THE HOPE THAT THE US WOULD INCREASE ITS "TECHNICAL" AID TO URUGUAY.

2. COMMENT: COUPLED WITH OTHER RECENT STATMENTS OF CONCERN OVER URUGUAY'S PLIGHT BY FRANCISCO MOLINA SALAS, DIRECTOR
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GENERAL FOR FOREIGN POLICY (REF A), AND COMMENTS TO US

OFFICIALS IN URUGUAY BY ARGENTINE AMBASSADOR DE LA PLAZA
(REPORTED MONTEVIDEO) A HIGHLY RESPECTED AND INFLUENTIAL PERSONAGE
IN FONOFF, IT IS CLEAR THAT THIS MATTER HAS BECOME A GOING
CONCERN WITH GOA POLICYMAKERS.

3. EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE DEPARTMENT AND MONTEVIDEO
VIEWS RE SERIOUSNESS OF URUGUAY'S ECONOMIC SITUATION,
US ASSISTANCE EFFORTS THERE, AS WELL AS SUGGESTED TALKING
POINTS FOR FUTURE DISCUSSION WITH GOA OFFICIALS ON SUBJECT.
IT APPEARS TO US URUGUAY'S SITUATION MAY ILLUSTRATE NEED
TO GIVE HIGH PRIORITY TO PROBLEMS OF HARDEST HIT COUNTRIES
ALONG LINES WHICH USG HAS BEEN PROPOSING. SITUATION MAY
ALSO GIVE USG OPPORTUNITY TO RE-EMPHASIZE TO SOUTHERN CONE
COUNTRIES JOINT INTER-
EST OF OIL CONSUMING NATIONS IN MAINTAINING OIL PRICES AT
REASONABLE LEVELS.
HILL

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Message Attributes

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